

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are pending.

The attention of the Examiner is invited to the concurrently filed document entitled "REQUEST TO CORRECT INVENTORSHIP" together with its attachments. With the filing of these documents the inventorship in this case is the same as that of US patent 6,461,755 (the '755 patent). The '755 patent is not "by another" as that term is used in 35 USC 102(e). The '755 patent is not prior art against the claims of this application.

There being no other grounds of rejection, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the case to issue.

**Conclusion**

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David R. Murphy (Reg. No. 22,751) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

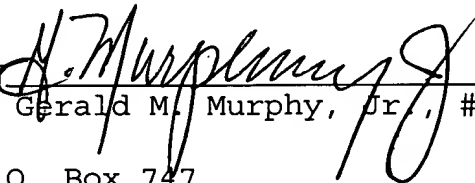
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

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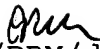
required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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